

25 FEB 1972

**LOUIS AZRAEL SAYS:****In a Way, the Death Toll Is Lo**

damage than they really should. This costly situation should be corrected."

MANY PERSONS PRAISE, many sharply criticise, the CIA. They mean the Central Intelligence Agency, not Baltimore area folk who learn something they think others, too, may want to know and who therefore send the fact to this column.

These volunteers from "the other CIA" — Columnist's Information Aides.

Here is what some of them have reported...

A DOCTOR REPORTED:

Maryland's death toll from auto accidents goes tragically upward year by year, which is terrible. In a way through, the state can be proud of its traffic death statistics.

It is reasonable to assume that the more miles autos are driven on the state's roads, the more fatal accidents might be expected. The fact is, however, that on the basis of total mileage compiled by autos in Maryland, the death rate has dropped by 12 per cent in the last ten years.

In Pennsylvania and New York, the drop was seven per cent. In Delaware it was three per cent. In the District of Columbia the death rate, computed on the basis of total mileage, went up four per cent.

A CITY HALL AGENT REPORTED:

Almost every week the city authorizes purchases of land and buildings for the Inner Harbor Development project. Many officials believe the city is paying, for a substantial number of these properties, more than a fair price.

Comptroller Hyman Pressman occasionally makes this argument at Board of Estimates meetings but he is always outvoted. The price fixed by appraisers is accepted.

Frequently, even those who vote to pay these prices really feel the city is being over-charged. They vote, however, because they are anxious to get the Inner Harbor project moving as rapidly as possible. Contesting the prices might lead to delays which, in the long run, could be more costly than the price inflations.

FROM A BALTIMORE COUNTY Volunteer Fireman:

"All too often, when we answer an alarm, we have trouble in finding out just where the fire is, unless it is so big that we can see the smoke or flames. What causes this trouble? There's no house number on a great many buildings in the county.

The result is that many fires cause much more

A LAWYER REPORTED:

Law students who are preparing to take Maryland Bar examinations this year ought to be told — if they don't already know — that the exams will be very different than they're been in the past.

Maryland and six other states are adopting the uniform examination system which 19 states are already using.

It consists of multiple choice questions, drawn up by a national committee. Usually, a legal problem is stated and several possible answers are suggested. The student must indicate which answer is best.

The filled-out papers will be sent to a testing service and will be graded by computers. As in most states now using this system, Maryland would-be lawyers probably will also have to write an essay or answer additional question which relate especially to Maryland laws and precedents.

FROM A GOLF BUG:

Last year the municipal golf courses cost taxpayers almost \$120,000. That was the difference between the cost of maintaining the courses and the amount collected for greens fees, caddy carts, etc. Pine Ridge was the only course to show a profit — about \$15,000.

This year, however, prospects look better. Many improvements installed last year should reduce maintenance costs and, from indications last Fall, there should be many more users.